



NEWS RELEASE

Office of Representative Brenda Barton

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Rep. Brenda Barton (R-Dist. 06)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EPA ACCEPTS ALTERNATIVE PLAN FOR NAVAJO POWER STATION

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX (July 31, 2014) – The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) accepted an alternative plan for the Navajo Generating Station (NGS) Monday, July 28, 2014.

The alternative plan minimizes the loss of jobs at the plant, which employs many people from the Navajo Nation, and reduces the impact on power and water costs throughout Arizona.

"I am pleased they accepted Arizona's proposal," said Rep. Barton. "It means fewer jobs losses for members of the Navajo Nation as well as a more stable price for power and water throughout Arizona."

Rep. Barton, who chairs the Agriculture and Water Committee for the Arizona House of Representatives, has been a vocal supporter of the alternative plan.

The alternative plan was developed by a group of stakeholders known as the Technical Working Group on NGS. The Group includes, along with other stakeholders, the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District, the Environmental Defense Fund, the Gila River community, the Navajo Nation and SRP.

Generally, the alternative plan requires NGS to close one of its three power generating units. Closing one of the units will mean the loss of approximately 300 jobs at NGS.

"I am not happy about the loss of jobs, but the EPA's original plan for NGS could have forced the closure of all three units," said Rep. Barton. "The 77,000 comments, endless hearings and five years of hard work helped to stem the negative impact that the agency's original proposal would have had on the surrounding communities and state," said Rep. Barton.

Barton added that the National Parks Conservation Association has announced its plan to sue the EPA and force it to impose even harsher regulations on NGS.

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